

Translation

PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

PCT

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY REPORT ON PATENTABILITY
(Chapter II of the Patent Cooperation Treaty)

(PCT Article 36 and Rule 70)

Applicant's or agent's file reference JP920030171	FOR FURTHER ACTION	See Form PCT/IPEA/416
International application No. PCT/JP2004/011831	International filing date (day/month/year) 18.08.2004	Priority date (day/month/year) 28.08.2003
International Patent Classification (IPC) or national classification and IPC G06F17/60, 15/00, H04L9/32		
Applicant IBM JAPAN, LTD.		

1.	This report is the international preliminary examination report, established by this International Preliminary Examining Authority under Article 35 and transmitted to the applicant according to Article 36.
2.	This REPORT consists of a total of 5 sheets, including this cover sheet.
3.	This report is also accompanied by ANNEXES, comprising: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. <input type="checkbox"/> (sent to the applicant and to the International Bureau) a total of _____ sheets, as follows: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> sheets of the description, claims and/or drawings which have been amended and are the basis for this report and/or sheets containing rectifications authorized by this Authority (see Rule 70.16 and Section 607 of the Administrative Instructions). <input type="checkbox"/> sheets which supersede earlier sheets, but which this Authority considers contain an amendment that goes beyond the disclosure in the international application as filed, as indicated in item 4 of Box No. I and the Supplemental Box. b. <input type="checkbox"/> (sent to the International Bureau only) a total of (indicate type and number of electronic carrier(s)) _____, containing a sequence listing and/or tables related thereto, in computer readable form only, as indicated in the Supplemental Box Relating to Sequence Listing (see Section 802 of the Administrative Instructions).
4.	This report contains indications relating to the following items: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Box No. I Basis of the report <input type="checkbox"/> Box No. II Priority <input type="checkbox"/> Box No. III Non-establishment of opinion with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability <input type="checkbox"/> Box No. IV Lack of unity of invention <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Box No. V Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement <input type="checkbox"/> Box No. VI Certain documents cited <input type="checkbox"/> Box No. VII Certain defects in the international application <input type="checkbox"/> Box No. VIII Certain observations on the international application

Date of submission of the demand	Date of completion of this report
Name and mailing address of the IPEA/JP	Authorized officer
Facsimile No.	Telephone No.

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY REPORT ON PATENTABILITY

International application No.

PCT/JP2004/011831

Box No. I Basis of the report

1. With regard to the language, this report is based on the international application in the language in which it was filed, unless otherwise indicated under this item.

☐ This report is based on translations from the original language into the following language _____ which is the language of a translation furnished for the purposes of:

- ☐ international search (Rule 12.3 and 23.1(b))
☐ publication of the international application (Rule 12.4)
☐ international preliminary examination (Rule 55.2 and/or 55.3)

2. With regard to the elements of the international application, this report is based on (*replacement sheets which have been furnished to the receiving Office in response to an invitation under Article 14 are referred to in this report as "originally filed" and are not annexed to this report*):

☒ the international application as originally filed/furnished

☐ the description:

pages _____ as originally filed/furnished

pages* _____ received by this Authority on _____

pages* _____ received by this Authority on _____

☐ the claims:

nos. _____ as originally filed/furnished

nos.* _____ as amended (together with any statement) under Article 19

nos.* _____ received by this Authority on _____

nos.* _____ received by this Authority on _____

☐ the drawings:

sheets _____ as originally filed/furnished

sheets* _____ received by this Authority on _____

sheets* _____ received by this Authority on _____

☐ a sequence listing and/or any related table(s) – see Supplemental Box Relating to Sequence Listing.

3. ☐ The amendments have resulted in the cancellation of:

☐ the description, pages _____

☐ the claims, nos. _____

☐ the drawings, sheets/figs _____

☐ the sequence listing (*specify*): _____

☐ any table(s) related to sequence listing (*specify*): _____

4. ☐ This report has been established as if (some of) the amendments annexed to this report and listed below had not been made, since they have been considered to go beyond the disclosure as filed, as indicated in the Supplemental Box (Rule 70.2(c)).

☐ the description, pages _____

☐ the claims, nos. _____

☐ the drawings, sheets/figs _____

☐ the sequence listing (*specify*): _____

☐ any table(s) related to sequence listing (*specify*): _____

* If item 4 applies, some or all of those sheets may be marked "superseded."

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY REPORT ON PATENTABILITY

International application No.

PCT/JP2004/011831

Box No. V	Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement		
1. Statement			
Novelty (N)	Claims	<u>1-22</u>	YES
	Claims		NO
Inventive step (IS)	Claims		YES
	Claims	<u>1-22</u>	NO
Industrial applicability (IA)	Claims	<u>1-22</u>	YES
	Claims		NO
2. Citations and explanations (Rule 70.7)			
<p>The following document is cited in the international search report.</p>			
<p>Document 1: JP 2002-203109 A (Kabushiki Kaisha CIC), 19 July 2002, entire text and fig. 1 to 9</p>			
<p>The following document is newly cited in the present report.</p>			
<p>Document 2: JP 2002-342170 A (Sharp Corp.), 29 November 2002, column 11, line 3 to column 12, line 41 (Family: none)</p>			
<p>The inventions set forth in claims 1 to 2, 7 to 10, 14 to 15, 17 and 20 to 22 do not involve an inventive step in the light of documents 1 to 2.</p>			
<p>Document 1 discloses a system for authorizing access to a database in which personal credit information is stored, wherein a consumer member client transmits conditions for permitting access, which include information pertaining to the items that may be accessed, to a server;</p>			
<p>the server generates an access key, records the generated</p>			

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY REPORT ON PATENTABILITY

International application No.

PCT/JP2004/011831

Box No. V	Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement
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access key and the conditions for permitting access in a access permission table, and then transmits the access key to the consumer member client;
the consumer member client transmits the access key to a corporate member server;
the corporate member transmits the access key that was supplied by the consumer member to the server;
the server retrieves the personal credit information from the database on the basis of the transmitted access key and then transmits the items that are allowed to be accessed, as established by the conditions for permitting access, to the corporate member server.

Meanwhile, document 2 discloses a personal information management system wherein a personal information management server reads out the personal information of a first registrant in response to an instruction from said first registrant, all or some of the information is copied to an information retrieval box, and then a second registrant is allowed to access the personal information that is stored in the information retrieval box.

Therefore, creating a copy of the information to be provided, as disclosed in document 2, instead of recording the items that may be accessed in an access permission table, like in the invention that is disclosed in document 1, is merely a simple design matter for a person skilled in the art.

The inventions set forth in claims 3 to 6, 11 to 13, 16 and 18 to 19 do not involve an inventive step in the light of documents 1 to 2 cited in the international search report.

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY REPORT ON PATENTABILITY

International application No.

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Box No. V

Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability;
citations and explanations supporting such statement

Encryption techniques that make it impossible for the transmission side to discover specifically which set of information is being requested from among the plurality of sets of information that have been stored are well known, and thus a person skilled in the art could have combined such a technique with the invention that is disclosed in document 1, as necessary.